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The Writers' Room

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Episode 11: Blunt Force Drama

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EPISODE 11: Blunt Force Drama

Standards of Behavior contains mature language, content and themes. Please listen with care.

1. INT. HEARING MODERATORS OFFICE

ROY

Sir, could we please take a break or something, this has been going on for so long. I just want to get back to normal and go home.

HEARING MODERATOR

Mr. Hammond, we understand that this has been a stressful time. This university is devastated about the events that unfolded, and we sympathize with you for this having taken place in your household. But we need to get to the bottom of this.

ROY

Bottom of what? You're acting like someone did this to him. The kid was drunk and he hit his head. It's a terrible thing, but it's just what happened. I don't get why I matter to this.

HEARING MODERATOR

You matter because you were present at the party and the body was found in your house while you were at home. You could have seen something. So Mr. Hammond just answer our questions fully and we can finish this up. Now, you have stated that you didn't know Jack Malvolio very well, but is there any information that you can think of that would be pertinent to our investigation?

ROY

Nope.

2. FLASHBACK. Roy is alone after having just found Sofi's list of names in her room.

ROY

(Talking to himself)

What the hell is this? There's like twelve girl's names on here and Jack's name too. Huh. Allison is on here. What could this be?

DOOR OPENS.

SOFI

Alright you ready to go- why are you holding that?

ROY

Could you describe what "that" is? This is stalker type shit, Sof. Why do you have all of these names written down? Wait-are you gonna wack these people, cause I've watched my fair share of mob movies and I think rule number one is don't write a list of who you're gonna kill.

SOFI

(Chuckles nervously)

Yep, you caught me...let's just go get lunch.

ROY

No No No No No. You do not get off that easily, my friend. Seriously, what the hell is this?

SOFI

It's going to sound weird if I say it.

ROY

Oh you know I love weird. My tombstone is gonna read, "Roy Hammond. One weird guy", hit me with it.

SOFI

(Awkwardly)

These are kinda the names of girls I've seen Jack take home with him at parties. Just for my own sake, I want to find a way to protect them if something were to happen. I don't know, look it's nothing.

PAUSE.

ROY

(Laughs)

You're right. That's weird. What are you jealous of him or something? Because lemme tell ya, Sof, every girl would rather be going home with you over that creep.

SOFI

(Angry)

Dude. I'm looking out for them. I just want to be sure that no one gets hurt. Okay? Is that such a bad thing? Guys can be creepy and aggressive, and as a woman, I have a duty to protect others if I can. You couldn't possibly understand, you're just another guy.

ROY

Whoa, just cause I'm a guy doesn't mean I'm out there sleeping with drunk girls all the time. Geez, (Stifles laugh) only on the weekends.

SOFI

Okay Roy, Fuck off. I'm not playing around with this stuff. This is real life. Jack is a creep and I know he's taken advantage of a bunch of different girls before.

ROY

Do you have any proof besides seeing him hit on girls? Because if that's it, he's literally taken advantage of every girl on campus.

SOFI

No, not yet. But if something were to come up, at least I could be a witness or something. I don't know. I'm just trying my best to be a good person and watch out for others. Is that so wrong?

ROY

No, but, I just think you need to know more than just seeing him leave a party with drunk girls. Look, I hate the guy, but I just don't want you to get in trouble for jumping to conclusions.

SOFI

I know, I'm being careful. But seriously, I'm starving. Let's just go. Look I've got a coupon for a free burrito. (Talking to him like a dog) Come on boy. I know a good boy who likes a free burrito.

ROY

Damn you and your cleverly used coupons. Fine, let's go.

DOOR OPENS.

ROY (CON'D)

But seriously if you ever need a hitman, I've learned so much from every mob movie.

DOOR CLOSES.

FLASHBACK ENDS.

3. INT. HEARING MODERATORS OFFICE

HEARING MODERATOR

Miss Perez, I've been really trying to find some sort of connection from a witness as to why Mr. Malvolio could have hit his head so badly as to result in his death. From what we have been told no one seems to have seen him, and if they did, they did not see him as being overly intoxicated to the point where it could have led to his death. We ask you to please tell us about any information you may have.

SOFI

Sir, I'm not friends with the guy. Why are you so set on the idea that I would know anything? To be honest it's getting annoying.

HEARING MODERATOR

Miss Perez, it may be annoying, but it is necessary. A student has died and it is our job to find out all the information possible. We need to be sure that you are giving us every piece of information that you can, and that it is the whole truth. And that is what we intend to get, yes?

SOFI

(Softly)

You could ask a bit nicer.

HEARING MODERATOR

What was that?

SOFI

Yes, yes sir. I will give you everything I know.

HEARING MODERATOR

Thank you, Miss Perez. So, what else can you tell us about that night?

SOFI

I don't recall much of what happened that night, sir.

HEARING MODERATOR

(Sigh) Let me try something else, now there must be something you know about him. You're a classmate of his and were at the same party. Is there any common thing between the two of you that you would have talked to him about?

SOFI

I- I don't know. Look I didn't know the guy well and there is nothing in common between Jack and I.

4. FLASHBACK. Night of the party. PARTY MUSIC.

SOFI

(Slightly intoxicated)

Charlotte, me and you are like two of the best partners I could think of. Um. Friend partners. Yeah. You're awesome.

CHARLOTTE

(A bit distracted)

Ha. Thanks, yeah you're awesome too Sof.

ROY

Well I think I've got to be a part of that partnership. Charlotte, I'm sure you could tell, but I bring a lot more than my sick dance moves to the table. Like I'm sophisticated and, dare I say it, quite the romantic.

SOFI

You sir, are pathetic.

ROY

What? I'm just being my true self.

SOFI

You're being weird, so yeah. You're right, you are being yourself.

Charlotte and Sofi GIGGLE.

ROY

Oh shut up. Just take a look. I'm about to hit my best move. The sprinkler.

Charlotte and Sofi LAUGH.

SOFI

Whoa Allison looks really upset. I hope everything's alright.

CHARLOTTE

(Unconvincingly)

Yeah, she's super upset, I hope everything is okay. But hey Will went outside with her, I'm sure they're just talking about something; let's just give them their space.

SOFI

Or we can see what's happening. Yeah let's do that. I'm gonna go check if I can see what's happening through the window.

ROY

(Sarcastically)

Oh no, now it's just me and Charlotte alone. Too bad.

SOFI

Yeah soak it in Roy, it ain't gonna last. I'll be back.

5. SAME PARTY MUSIC. Sofi looks out window.

SOFI

(Thinking out loud)

Geez, she looks super upset. I wonder what happened.

DRUNK GUY
HEEY, I KNOW YOU. WE HAD A CLASS
TOGETHER!

SOFI
Quiet down, I'm trying to watch
this.

DRUNK GUY
Oh, what ya lookin' at?

SOFI
Um nothing. Just my friends talking
outside.

DRUNK GUY
OH whoa. Spying. I like it, lemme
get (hiccup) in on this. Scoot
over.

SOFI
What? No. Ugh fine, just shut up
and let me see if I can make out
what they're saying.

DRUNK GUY
Windows are cool.

SOFI
What?

DRUNK GUY
Just think about it. It's like a
wall...but see through. Amazing,
right?

SOFI
Um...sure. Just be quiet. Allison
seems so sad and Will seems super
pissed. I bet it's over Allison not
spending as much time with everyone

SOFI (CON'D)
and just keeping to herself. I saw
this coming.

DRUNK GUY

Yup. (Hiccup) Me too.

SOFI

Do you even know them?

DRUNK GUY

Not exactly, but I feel like I've learned a lot about them in these couple of minutes.

PAUSE.

DRUNK GUY (CON'D)

Look that Phil guy is running back in. He's mad.

SOFI

IT'S WILL. It doesn't matter, why am I even talking to you? Look I'm gonna follow him upstairs and see if I can find out what's happening. Just keep looking out the window and make a list of why it's so cool.

DRUNK GUY

Oh I'll make a great list. And I'll keep the window sill nice and warm for when you come back.

SOFI

(Sigh)

Whatever.

6. Upstairs. Sofi listening outside of room Jack and Will are in. PARTY MUSIC PLAYING.

SOFI

(To herself)

I can't hear a damn thing. Wait, is he talking to Jack? Whoa whoa whoa. I need to hear this.

PAUSE. MUFFLED VOICES in background.

SOFI (CON'D)

Did he just...DID HE JUST SAY HE
RAPED HER? What?! I knew something
was up. I knew Jack was a fucking
creep. That fucker.

YELL can be heard from Jack being punched by Will.
DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.

WILL

(Distant)

Hey Sof.

SOFI

Hi? Did you just-

WILL

I'll see ya later Sofi, I'm gonna
head out.

SOFI

(To herself)

Well, my turn.

DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES.

7. Sofi and Jack are in the room. PARTY MUSIC is
muffled in the room.

JACK

Fuck that guy. Oh great, the Gay
Pride parade is here to celebrate.
What do you want Sofi?

SOFI

I thought I'd take a turn hitting
you, you dick. I heard what Will
said, you raped Allison. You piece
of shit. You're not even human,
you're literally a piece of shit.
Nothing more.

JACK

I didn't rape her, I don't know
what the fuck he's talking about.
We just hooked up, that's it. She
wanted to do it just as much as I

JACK (CON'D)

did. Okay? It was perfectly fine. Besides how would he know anyway. He's just jealous and she wants attention. That bitch is just making this up.

SOFI

Fuck you! Never call her that. How could you do that to a person? That is despicable. And guess what Jack, I know she's not the only one. I've witnessed you take home a bunch of different girls. I'm a witness, and when this gets out I'll back up all of their stories.

JACK

When this gets out? No no no, you don't tell anyone this. People are going to believe it actually happened. Sofi, don't you dare tell anyone.

SOFI

Emma Christensen, Faith Thompson, Kate Foster. I can go on and on Jack, and it's coming out. This might be the last time I see ya, so have terrible life. I'm leaving.

JACK

Sofi don't! That is just a complete lie, I didn't do anything wrong. I just spent a night with some of them. There's nothing illegal with hooking up with someone.

SOFI

There is when they're too drunk to give consent. You can't just use a person like that you creep. This is coming out and you're fucked.

JACK

Get back here.

SOFI
Jack I'm going.

JACK
No you're not.

SOFI
Jack, I'm going. Let me go. Let me
go! GET OFF!

PUSHING SOUND. SMACK of Jack's head hitting a
table.

SOFI
Oh fuck he hit the corner. Fuck
fuck fuck, he's bleeding. What do I
do? Oh god.

DOOR OPENS.

ROY
WHOA! What happened?

SOFI
OH THANK GOD, ROY! Help me. We have
to stop his head from bleeding,
he's unconscious.

ROY
Okay okay. Look there's a towel on
the ground, put it on his head. And
I'll put his head under this
pillow. Or on the pillow? Elevate
his head, or something. Elevate his
feet? I don't know, I'm too drunk
for this.

SOFI
(Heavily panting)
I don't know what to do.

ROY
Look it's fine. The bleeding is
slowing down, he's got pressure on
it. Some areas of his body are
elevated. He'll wake up in like
twenty minutes and head home.

ROY (CON'D)

Besides, we're all pretty much
blackout drunk, I'm sure that we'll
forget about this in the morning.
Look his eyes are kind of opened,
maybe shake him awake.

SOFI

Okay okay fine. Jack, wake up.
Jack. JACK.

JACK

(Grunt) (Groggy)

Wh-what? OW! What the hell
happened? Did I hit my-(groan) did
I hit my head?

ROY

Yup. Just take a load off Jack,
you'll live. Come on Sof let's get
outta here.

DOOR OPENS AND CLOSE.

FLASHBACK ENDS.

8. INT. HEARING MODERATORS OFFICE

HEARING MODERATOR

So there is nothing more you can
tell us about that night that could
give us information on how Jack
ended up with head trauma?

SOFI

No sir. I have no knowledge of how
Jack could have hit his head.

THE END.